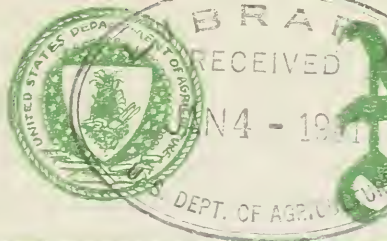


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ISSUE NO. 5

Dallas, Texas

December 12, 1960

A THOUGHT FOR YOU

By Hal Wright

Fast is approaching that magic time of year when almost everyone undergoes a change in character. The result is a world of changed people with thoughts of peace instead of war, giving instead of receiving, and thoughtfulness of fellow man.

In general, this is a world whose thoughts and actions turn basically in one direction--"Good Will Toward Men."

What brings about this change of character in man? The answer we logically give is Christmas, and, no doubt, this is true.

Begin now to take a good look at your fellow man and the world about you. How different it appears with this magic spell stretched over it. What a wonderful world it is. See how good people really can be. Notice the change from last month or the month before.

You and I believe there is no such thing as magic, and that this spell is nothing more than Christmas spirit. A spirit that changes our character for a few days and then is cast aside and forgotten until next year. In a sense, is this not a form of magic that changes us from one type person to another if only for a few days?

Is it possible that on Christmas Eve when this power is at its peak of strength, you could break the spell it has over you and refuse to depart from your Christmas character? Could you entreat yourself into a lifetime of "Christmas living?"

If you could, you would have the merriest Christmas, the happiest, most prosperous New Year you have ever known.

We know it could be done. I'm willing to try, are you?

## ANOTHER WAY TO DO IT

Instead of continuing the annual custom of exchanging gifts among personnel of the group, the Loan and Custody Unit, FI, CSS, threw a comparable amount into a pot to be used to purchase individual appropriate gifts for the school seniors at Buckner Orphans Home. There were several people in nearby units who also contributed.

\* \* \* \* \*

## SANTA'S HELPERS FROM USDA

U.S.D.A. Club folks are great hands at part-time work after duty hours and particularly at Christmas. We have no figures on the group, but daresay that it numbers as many as fifty. Among the group is Mrs. Lucille Travis for the first time this year. Her arrangement is a little bit different, however, as she is finally capitalizing on her hobby of floral arrangements and gift wrapping. Lucille has secured space in the Ben Franklin Store, 2201 Second Avenue and stocked it with her own creations which include floral wreaths, corsages, centerpieces and a wide range of gift wrappings, including gift wrapping service. This is not intended to be a commercial ad for Lucille, but those people who have seen her creations throughout the years are convinced that she has few peers in this type of talent, professional or amateur. Her many friends also add that this is just another example of the indomitable courage of our fellow worker.

ETHELYN (Lyn) VIRDEN, SM, resigned to don a wedding ring. She was married November 19 to Robert L. Fisher. They are living in Tyler, Texas.

DOROTHY McCLENDON has a third grandson now--Brian David--born the middle of November to her son, Ralph.

AMONG our many members who have retired to the excitement of housewifely duties is Donna Lyon, who used to work in Personnel. Latest excitement in the "Lyon's Den" is a brand new baby girl, which brings the distaff total to four.

\* \* \* \* \*

You read here where Bill Boren and his wife went to Las Vegas last summer and finished ahead of the game, or something like that. Here's the sequel. Boren sold this fairy tale to Lambert Bemelmans of Fiscal, CSS, and another bachelor and the three of them spent 4 days and/or nights in the land of the galloping dominoes and other gaming devices. Since I did not believe the story from the first time, I really should not have asked how the group came out this time. As I get it, Boren did not leave as much this time as he took on the last time, and Bemelmans remarked only that he was glad that Truman Hembree had backed the losing presidential candidate. We promise not to report any more of these sordid gambling stories, unless, of course, I do to Las Vegas.

CORA LEE LANDRUM'S mother broke her hip, and has had to undergo surgery. Cora Lee advises that she is doing well.

## OPAL McDONALD

The many friends of Mrs. Opal McDonald were shocked and saddened by her sudden illness and death on November 8.

Opal McDonald was truly an outstanding person in her work, as evidenced by two Outstanding Performance Awards. She was equally outstanding in the high regard in which she was held by all those who knew her.

The nature of the work she performed required that she learn and know the details of the jobs of many other people throughout the office, and to secure their closest cooperation at all times. Such a task in the hands of the ordinary sometimes can bring unneeded pressure and friction and even hard feelings. With Opal, there was always the desired good double result of accomplishment and good feelings.

To many people, the greatest single asset in business relations is an individual's ability to listen to another person's problem with patience, understanding and sincerity. Expressed in its simplest terms, Opal's job consisted mainly of just listening to the problems of business people both in and outside the government. In all my years of acquaintance and work with her, I never failed to gain a full audience with my work problems, and I never heard her criticize anyone, even though in her job she could nearly always detect the source of errors, both of execution and of judgment.

Perhaps the perfect employee is one who can simultaneously accomplish all his work and please everybody. Opal McDonald came as close to these accomplishments as human frailties permit.

If we are very fortunate, it may again be our privilege to know and work with someone like her.



COTTON PICKER JOINS DPD

The mills of the employment gods grind slowly and all that jazz, but the wheel of fortune has finally come full cycle for JOSH CALLAN, our recent transfer to DPD from New Orleans CSS CO. You see, Josh got caught up in that cotton deal which had its brief tenure in the Dallas CO and spent nearly seven years with the Cajuns before he grabbed the computer brass ring returning him to us. Josh served time in Fiscal, COD, and DP Divisions while in New Orleans, which may attest to his versatility. Among other accomplishments, Callan has done some newspaper editing and reporting, but insists that this article state that he was not its author. (It was me and my graphite arrow - DMW).

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KVH AGAIN IN SPOTLIGHT

No sooner do we give her a tub full of publicity than Kathryn vanHaltern, our California art correspondent, goes and suffers a serious accident by breaking her hip. She will be hospitalized for several weeks, and I'm sure would welcome cards and letters. Her address is 2018 Central, Apartment A, Alameda, California.

USDA CLUB HEARS DR. COCKE AT  
GENERAL MEETING

At its first general meeting of the Club year, approximately 650 members of USDA Club gave an enthusiastic response to the message concerning our individual stake in the space age, delivered by Dr. Erle Cocke, brilliant young businessman and war hero of Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Cocke's appearance was arranged by C. C. Perry, formerly of Atlanta USDA Club, and Hal Wright. The speaker was introduced by Mr. C. H. Koseley, Director of CSS CO. The invocation was given by Dr. Luther Holcomb, President of the Greater Dallas Council of Churches. USDA Club President Hal Wright presided. The Baker Hotel provided its Crystal Ballroom without fee, as a public service.

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GREETINGS!

In behalf of the officers and directors of the Dallas U.S.D.A. Club, I would like to extend Seasons Greetings to the entire club membership. It is our sincere wish that you and yours enjoy a very Merry Christmas and the happiest New Year possible.

Best Regards,

Hal Wright,  
President, USDA  
Club of Dallas

"GIVE-A-TOY" DRIVETO YOUR HEALTH

Mr. John J. Slaughter, Chairman of the Federal Business Association's Toys Committee, said today that he wanted to thank all U.S.D.A. employees for their participation in the recent "Give-A-Toy" drive. All toys collected were picked up on December 5, 6, and 7 and were delivered to the Fire Department. Here the used toys will be repaired and put in like-new condition; and the new toys will be separated and prepared for distribution at Christmas to the needy children of Dallas. The Fire Department's conservative estimate places the number of toys collected from Dallas Federal Employees at between 8,000 and 10,000 toys.

Mr. Slaughter, commenting on the success of the drive said, "The Federal Business Association, who sponsored the drive, and all Federal employees should be proud of the response to this campaign. Many children in Dallas will be happier on Christmas Day because of the generosity of Federal Employees."

\* \* \* \* \*

The monthly reports by our Jean Morgan, R.N., have received the notice of the Washington Office. The Deputy Administrator of Operations has written the Director of the Dallas CSS Commodity Office and asked that Jean be commended for this work. We are happy for you, Jean, and of course are happy to print your informative articles. Moreover, it does not make us feel too bad to know that the paper is being read at that level in our Agency.

"How can I lose weight?" There are no magic answers to this frequent question. The "fad" diets and "reducing" drugs (if not prescribed by your doctor) may do more harm than good. Also, unusual strenuous exercises may not be advisable. Moderate regular exercise, such as walking, can be helpful.

Your overweight problem may be solved by the simple method of cutting down on all foods. It may be necessary, however, to cut down more on the high calorie foods such as breads, potatoes, fats, and sweets. Eat three well-balanced, though small, meals each day. A low calorie between meal snack may be allowed if your meals are much lower in total calories. Eat slowly and you will feel more satisfied.

Gradual weight loss is usually more effective than drastic weight reduction. You will feel better and be less likely to regain if you lose weight slowly. Losing and regaining weight may be detrimental to your health. If you are much overweight or have some health problem, you should consult your physician before dieting. He may prescribe a diet and possibly a drug, but follow his directions carefully.

With Thanksgiving past and Christmas soon to come, at least make it your New Year's resolution to start good eating habits. You will look better, feel better, and live longer!

Jean Morgan, R. N.

R. N. RICHARDSON

The newspaper accounts were accurate, because they read substantially as follows:

R. N. Richardson, 66, a retired U. S. Department of Agriculture employe, died December 4, 1960. Mr. Richardson retired last June after 20 years with the CSS Commodity Office of the Agriculture Department. He was past president of the U.S.D.A. Federal Credit Union's credit committee. Survivors include his wife and three sons.

Accurate, yes, but not complete. As I read it, it seemed to me to need more, perhaps such as this:

.... "An employee of the U.S.D.A. for twenty years.... but that doesn't tell you that he worked most of his life in constant physical pain. It doesn't say that he always kept his temper. It makes no mention of the quiet voiced advice in personal matters. It is silent on the many little things he did that helped develop young men into mature, efficient supervisors, or the courage he imparted to the bereaved, the bewildered, the discouraged.

.... "Past President of USDA Club":

How to plan a party and get the people out? Rich initiated most techniques for money-raising ever used by the Club. He drew up prize lists, arranged space, secured commercial donations, speakers, awards, publicity. The USDA Club never had a more effective president.

.... Credit Union.....

It omitted that Rich made many loans on his "faith" book that would never have passed the Blue Book or the Red Book. Many such loans were repaid only because the borrowers couldn't let Rich down after what he had done for them.

...."Survived by ....."

That's not all, Mr. Newspaperman. Rich is survived by countless hundreds of fellow employees and friends who saw him as a wise, unselfish counsellor, a devoted parent, a true friend who never spoke an ill word of his fellow man.

My first job with the government, soon to be twenty years ago, was alongside Rich. My own nickname for him was "Pappy", which no one else ever called him, to my knowledge. My reason for the nickname? Well, I lost my own father when I was a baby, so I just "adopted" him, as he was the kind of man anyone would be proud to have for a father. And I shall remember that he seemed pleased, too.

- David M. Wells



## CLASSIFIED

PERSONNEL MERRY-GO-ROUND

FOR RENT to employed lady: Room with private bath, central cooling & heating. 6819 Larchwood Drive. Call DI-8-2605 evenings and weekends.

RIDE WANTED Monday through Friday - from vicinity Plano Road and Larchwood to arrive Commerce & Lamar at 7:45 A.M. Phone DI-8-2605 evenings and weekends.

RIDE WANTED Monday through Friday from vicinity Carroll & Gaston to arrive at Commerce & Lamar 7:45 A.M. Phone TA-4-0248 evenings & weekends.

\* \* \* \* \*

ALLEN SMITH finally got back from that three weeks plus tour on a freighter to the British West Indies. This was a trip designed primarily for rest and in other days would probably have produced a substantial beard. Even though the boat did not pull in at any Cuban port, Allen did not consider it the wisest thing to return with a "Castro Special."

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USDA CLUB NEWS is a monthly publication of USDA Club of Dallas. The Editor is David M. Wells. Makeup for this issue was by Carmen Miller. Reproduction was by Felix Segura. We would greatly appreciate any news items reported to us, particularly from the smaller agencies. It is not the Editor's intention to have CSS Commodity Office take more than its share of the news, but it is not possible to canvass each agency each month for news items.

Here are Personnel actions in CSS for the month of November. The information is furnished by Personnel Division and gathered by Pat Copeland. We would like to know about Personnel actions in other Agencies and must look to the individual Directors for this news.

ADDITIONS

Virginia Lafield - CO  
Josh Callan - DPD  
Huey Faciane - DPD  
Jack DiCarlo - DPD  
Doris Claybrook - DPD  
Sue Johnson - SM  
Margaret Fisher - SM

DELETIONS

Barbara Thompson - CO - Maternity Leave  
Carolyn Christina - SM - Maternity Leave  
Glenney Grundy - CO  
Lynn Virden - SM  
Stan Bishop - DPD  
Doris Ingram - DAC  
Shirley Webb - FI to IRS

ELEVATIONS

Preston Woodruff - FI  
Elizabeth Smith - FI (from TMD)

\* \* \* \* \*

The Editor is continuing his practice of not sending Christmas cards to his fellow employees. I presume it is permissible and in good taste, however, to wish each and everyone of you a Merry Christmas and a Bright New Year!

"Merry Christmas to All" is, of course, not complete unless it includes retired personnel. Here is a partial list of USDA people in Dallas. All addresses could not be verified, and records go back only about five years. If you think of others, be sure to remember them with a greeting. The city is Dallas unless otherwise shown.

COMMODITY STABILIZATION SERVICE

Susie L. Anderson  
623 W. Pembroke (8)

James R. Andrews  
10324 Lavano Lane

John R. Ball  
1603 Larkspur  
Arlington, Texas

Chester E. Brashier  
P. O. Box 64  
Shubuta, Mississippi

Hiram H. Carpenter  
118 E. Daugherty  
Garland, Texas

Sam Cunningham  
603 Tenison Memorial Rd.

Annie B. Carson  
3211 Darby Drive

Berniece H. Garrett  
9420 Forest Hill Blvd.

Louise G. Menard  
3107 Inwood Rd.

Arving E. Morris  
5934 Vanderbilt (6)

Edward R. Murray  
1716 Magnolia Dr.  
Mesquite, Texas

Van B. Myers  
2231 Langdon

G. Holland Neely  
1910 Argentinia, Apt. A

Cecilia M. Patterson  
5934 LaVista Dr.

Emerald G. Whitehead  
1402 Wilbur (24)

COTTON DIVISION

Mrs. Irene Richardson  
3526 Mayhew Drive (28)

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

William McNair  
224 N. Brighton

INTERNAL AUDIT (AMS)

Harry E. McGlamery  
505 Gray Street  
Stillwater, Oklahoma

COMPLIANCE & INVESTIGATION DIVISION

William H. Massenburg  
2750 Gorman  
Waco, Texas

James P. McKenney  
2631 E. 14th  
Tulsa, Oklahoma